

Siskiyou Parenting Hub

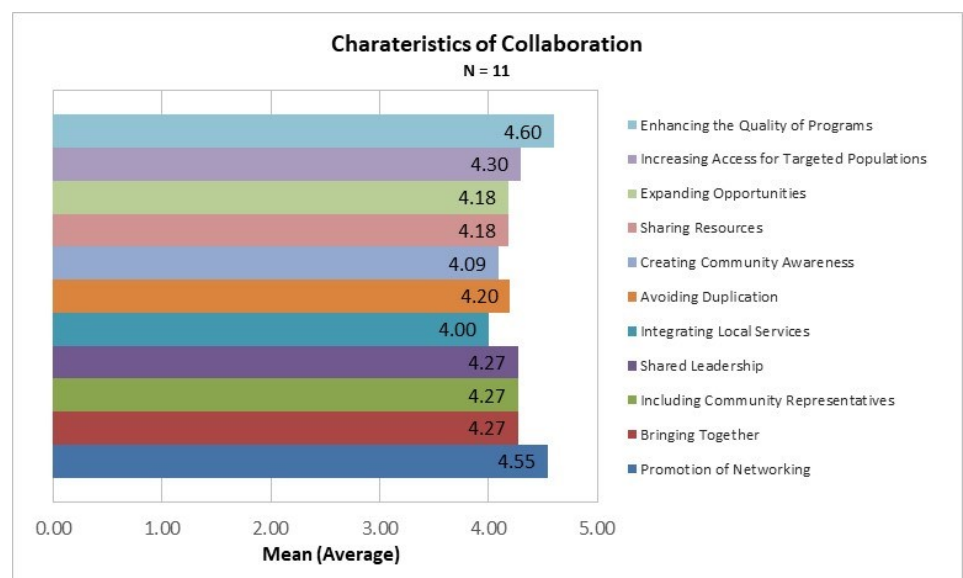
Community Partner Survey 2023

As part of the Oregon Parenting Education Collaborative (OPEC), community partners were asked to what extent their OPEC Hub was supporting parenting education in the community. The survey included items regarding the characteristics of the collaboration as well as items related to the overall impact and community perspectives about parenting education. The OPEC initiative seeks to continually improve the quality and coordination of parenting education services, therefore, partners were also asked to describe barriers to collaboration and offer suggestions for improving the collaborative. Following are the results from 11 community partners responding to the survey.

Characteristics of Collaborations

Community partners were asked to rate the extent their OPEC site was supporting parenting education in the community on a 5-point scale with 1 indicating *not at all* and 5 indicating *to a great extent*. The following characteristics were evaluated:

- Enhancing the quality of parenting education programs
- Increasing access to parenting education for targeted parent populations
- Expanding parenting education opportunities
- Sharing resources to implement parenting programming (i.e., funding, facilities, other in-kind contributions)
- Generating community awareness of the importance of parenting education
- Coordinating efforts to avoid duplication of services
- Integrating local services and supports through formal agreements (MOUs, referral process utilized)
- Sharing leadership among community members, parents, and agencies
- Taking active steps to include organizations and agencies that are representative of the community
- Bringing together people and organizations who would not have worked together otherwise
- Promoting networking and exchange of information among members of the collaboration



Best Things about the Collaboration

- Being able to build my village and not be alone.
- Great staff engaging families.
- It has made much needed services available throughout the community.
- Lots of families receive parenting education and are able to make friends and develop support systems.
- Offerings and partnerships developed by local coordination agency.
- Parenting classes offer such great information for all types of parents or caregivers.
- Strengthening Families.
- The collaboration pools resources to support all communities.
- The leadership is kind, knowledgeable, and proactive.

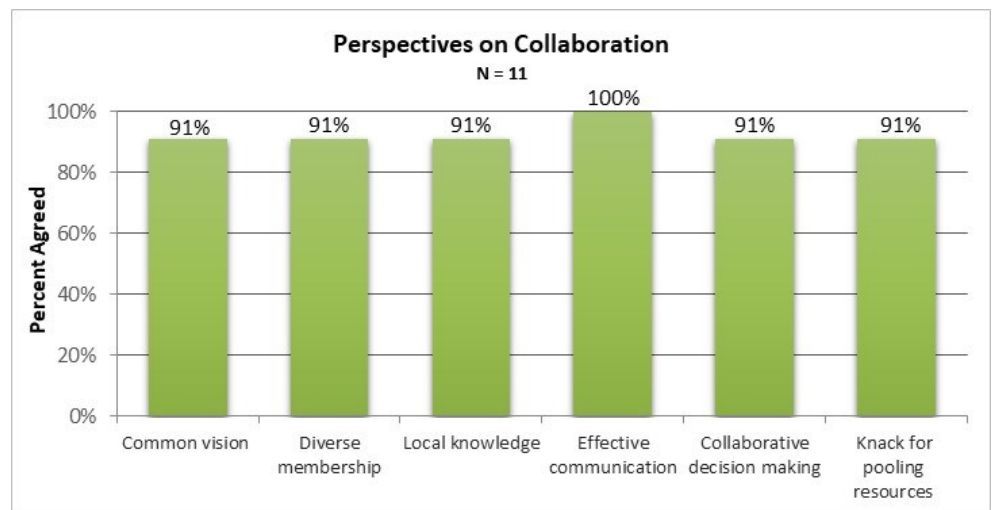


"I think that the parenting classes offered in Siskiyou County have made such a difference and have provided so many families with knowledge that they would have never received. The fact that the classes have been offered for a long time has really made a positive impact on our community."

Perspectives on Collaboration

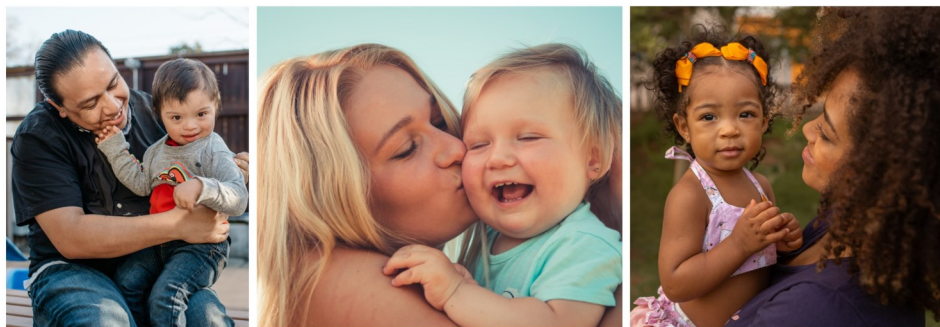
Respondents were asked to what extent they thought the collaboration with their local parenting education programs had the following characteristics:

- a common vision
- diverse, representative membership
- ample knowledge of local needs and resources amongst partners
- effective communication within the collaboration
- a collaborative decision making process
- a knack for pooling resources



Benefits of the Collaboration

- Addresses acute issues and allows ongoing support after my agency has closed our case.
- Brings parenting classes to our rural community for our clients who are willing to participate (there are not very many).
- Excellent trainings, supports family success and benefits the families with resources we do not have.
- Gives parents the tools they need to successfully raise their children
- I am a facilitator so, I make sure that all of the organization I work for has all the latest information.
- The children of Siskiyou County are our clients. The collaboration benefits them greatly.
- The collaborative supports our efforts to improve the health and well being of our community members.
- We are able to offer quality parenting education that we would not have the time, funding, or manpower to offer on our own.



Has there been an increase in parent-school involvement or improved family-school relationships?

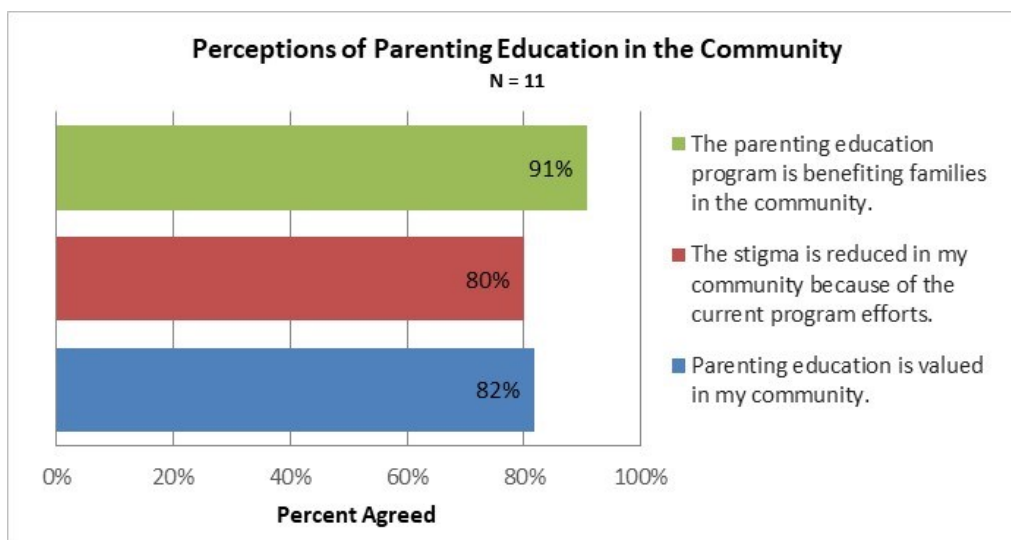
Four community partners replied "Yes."

In addition, community partners also said:

- In some areas I have seen increased parent-school involvement, but I would say it's been the exception rather than the rule.
- Parents are more comfortable, especially because some of our staff teach parenting classes so they are familiar with them. Parents seem to be more comfortable with meetings, etc.
- Schools are now open to have more parenting classes at their locations.

Views on Parenting Education in the Community

Community partners also were asked about how the collaboration impacted parenting education in their communities. The extent to which they agreed that parenting education benefited families, influenced values, and was an important part of the community as whole is reported in the table below.



Changes in the Community

Respondents reported the following impacts on their community as a result of the OPEC parenting education Hub:

- Access to parenting classes and professional development trainings for those who serve them, without this we would not have either.
- Community building and supports for families.
- Greater awareness of supports available.
- I believe a lot more people have awareness about parenting opportunities.
- More parents and families don't feel alone and get support.
- Parenting education has become normalized without the stigma of court ordered parenting classes.
- Parents are better equipped to fill their important role.
- Support for families who need parenting education.
- There is a stronger sense of community among parents, parents have a better understanding of where to seek help and support.

Perceived Barriers to Community Collaboration

Community partners responded to open-ended questions about the barriers they perceived with the goals of the community collaboration. Some of the key challenges shared were:

- Difficult to staff.
- I am not sure, maybe time?
- Not enough people know about it.
- Remote county, better to meet in person.
- Staffing shortages prevent us from participating in planning meetings a lot of the time.
- Stigma, shared ownership between all stakeholders...hard to reach, clients and stigma of parenting education.
- There have been barriers in the past around limited resources, but currently our collaborative is working well together and there aren't any significant barriers.
- Time and parent apathy.
- Time, large land mass, less understanding by some partners about collective impact. Those who have been here for a long time have committed to this effort, new leaders can benefit from this.



Suggestions for Improvement

Respondents offered many suggestions for community collaboration improvements.

- After hours crisis intervention.
- Continue to elevate promotion of current classes by all partners and reduce stigma. More organizations should support this prevention program. We are all in this together and every agency pull together. We have grown in this area, but new leadership in some organizations could be encouraged to continue investments in this important work.
- Continuing to invite partners to events.
- I think it is going great. I think the improvement needs to be on our end so that we can fully participate like we used to before we were experiencing staff shortages.
- Less paperwork for the parents.
- More in-person activities.